

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PARIS 03175 051849Z

64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-10 EB-07 OMB-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02 /109 W
----- 040492

R 051832Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6452

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS PARIS 03175

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, XJ

SUBJECT: "LE MONDE" PRINTS EMBASSY'S CORRECTION OF
ERRORS IN ITS ARTICLE ON U.S. POLICY IN AFRICA

REF: PARIS 2003

1. WITHOUT COMMENT, "LE MONDE" OF FEBRUARY 6 PRINTED
PROMINENTLY ALL OF SUBSTANTIVE PORTION OF LETTER TO THE
EDITOR FROM PAO POINTING OUT SOME OF THE ERRORS IN
JANUARY 24 ARTICLE BY JEAN-CLAUDE POMONTI ON U.S. RELA-
TIONS WITH AFRICA. THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE PUBLISHED
TEXT FOLLOWS:

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2. "NEITHER SOMALIA, NOR TANZANIA NOR MADAGASCAR HAS 'BROKEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON', AS STATED BY YOUR NAIROBI CORRESPONDENT.

3. NOR IS THE UNITED STATES 'THE THIRD ARMS SUPPLIER TO THE VORSTER REGIME, AFTER FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN', AS CLAIMED BY M. POMONTI. THE UNITED STATES HAS SCRUPULOUSLY ENFORCED ITS EMBARGO ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO SOUTH AFRICA ESTABLISHED UNILATERALLY IN 1962, A YEAR PRIOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION EMBARGOING SUCH SHIPMENTS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

4. M. DAVID NEWSOM WAS NOT ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE IN NOVEMBER 1974, AS YOUR ARTICLE INDICATED; HE BECAME AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA IN JANUARY 1974.

5. FINALLY, THE CURRENT AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, MR. JOSEPH MENDENHALL, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC SINCE SEPTEMBER 1972; THIS FACT IS IN CONTRADICTION TO THE ARTICLE'S ASSERTION THAT THE 'LAST AMERICAN AMBASSADOR' WAS EXPELLED BY PRESIDENT TSIRANANA IN JUNE 1971. TRUE, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR MARHSALL WAS REQUESTED TO LEAVE THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC IN 1971, AND THE EMBASSY WAS PUT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A CHARGE D'AFFAIRES. BUT PRIOR TO AMBASSADOR MENDENHALL'S ARRIVAL IN TANANARIVE, THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF APOLOGY FOR THE ACTION TAKEN AGAINST AMBASSADOR MARSHALL. HENCE, FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY OF STATE ROGERS IN 1973 WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE THEN (AND CURRENTLY) EXISTING GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."
STONE

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NNN

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